
ENVIRONMENTAL Fact Sheet



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Dam Ownership in New Hampshire

The NH Department of Environmental Services Water Division is charged with the responsibility of maintaining an inventory of all dams in the state. A database listing the known dams in the state as well as their technical data and ownership information is maintained in our office. To assist with prioritization dams are given various classifications.

Hazard Classification

Each dam is classified by the potential damages that a failure of the dam is expected to cause.

Hazard Classification	Percent of total
High	3%
Significant	6%
Low	17%
Non Menace	74%

Ownership

Every dam is further categorized into a classification of ownership. Below is a chart showing the percentage of active dams for each ownership classification.

Owner Classification	Percent of total
Private	78%
Local Government	12%
State	8%
Federal	1%
Public Utility	Less than 1%

It should be noted that all data is subject to continuous review and change.

For more information relative to the design, construction, maintenance and operation of dams, please contact the DES Water Division Dam Bureau at (603) 271-3406 or email damsafety@des.state.nh.us. General information is available at www.des.nh.gov/Dam/. You may also visit our office at 29 Hazen Drive in Concord, New Hampshire.